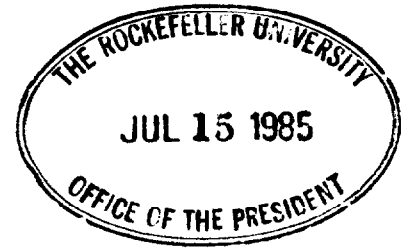


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Dr. Joshua Lederberg
President, The Rockefeller University
New York, NY 10021

Dear Joshua,

Thank you very much for your recent letters. I was not aware of the McCarty book and I will look forward to seeing a copy. I assume it is in the vein of the article which McCarty wrote earlier for one of the Annual Reviews. Thank you for the unpublished paper in reply to Gunther Stent on the alleged prematurity of the work of Avery et al. You had not sent me this earlier. As we all are aware, it is indeed difficult to get insight at this late date into the thinking of people at the time work was underway. This is why it is so important to have original documents such as you have kept.

I have just returned from a brief visit to the Institut Pasteur where I talked at some length with Francois Jacob. I was especially interested in discovering whether any of the early Monod and Jacob/Wollman material (data books, correspondence, progress reports, etc.) was still available. Unfortunately, everything seems to have been thrown out. Jacob showed me data books of his from 1959 and later but not from the earlier ones. You, of course, were importantly involved in parallel work to theirs on the discovery of the Hfr phenomenon and perhaps you have some relevant material from the Pasteur group. I recently spent a day at the Cal Tech Archives going over the Max Delbruck material, which is very extensive. Fortunately, Delbruck saved everything and his archives are extremely well organized by Cal Tech. There are letters and correspondence in relation to some of this early work that we are discussing.

I have read Snow's original paper on cholera but I must confess that I did not see at the time I read it any strong indication that Snow had been influenced by the discovery of microorganisms via microscopy. I will go back and examine Snow's paper again sometime.

My work on bacterial genetics moves forward by fits and starts. I now have a large amount of material from various archives to examine in detail but there is still much more to obtain. In the meantime, I am involved in preparing new books on Winogradsky and Koch for English-language readers and these works may occupy me for a short period of time.

Sincerely,

Thomas D. Brock
E.B. Fred Professor of Natural Sciences

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